

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please ~~amend~~ the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A fuel reforming apparatus comprising:

a reforming unit including a ~~equipped with~~ reforming catalyst in which a reforming reaction of a raw material containing a hydrogen proceeds by adding water to said raw material;

and

a heater for heating said reforming unit; and

a control unit for controlling the supply of said raw material to said reforming catalyst on the basis of the temperature of the reforming catalyst, and for controlling the supply of an inert gas or water to said reforming catalyst;

wherein, when said reforming catalyst reaches a predetermined temperature, said control unit operates to stop said supply of said raw material to said reforming catalyst, and to allow said inert gas or water to be supplied to said reforming catalyst while said reforming unit is being heated ~~said apparatus generating a hydrogen gas by heating said reforming unit and supplying said raw material and water to said heated reforming unit,~~

~~wherein activity of said reforming catalyst is recovered by heating said catalyst in a reducing atmosphere.~~

2. (Original) The fuel reforming apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a recovering gas supply unit for supplying an inert gas or water vapor to said reforming unit,

wherein activity of said reforming catalyst is recovered by heating said catalyst while supplying said inert gas or water vapor to said reforming unit.

3. (Cancelled)

*(currently Amended)*

4. ~~(Newly added)~~ The fuel reforming apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a sensor for detecting a concentration of hydrogen gas, wherein activity of said reforming catalyst is recovered when a concentration of hydrogen gas becomes ~~not~~ higher than a predetermined concentration.

*12* 5. (Original) The fuel reforming apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a desulfurizer for removing a sulfide from said raw materials.

6. (Newly added) The fuel reforming apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein said reforming catalyst is heated at a temperature in the range of 500 to 800°C.

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